



Longview Evangelical Presbyterian Church

*Coming together
to know Christ and to make him known.*

December 30, 2018

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

We Three Kings

Words and Music - John Henry Hopkins Jr.
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WELCOME & *INVOCATION

Shelley Kral

Pastor: God is here! The Messiah has come!
**People: We open our eyes to see him and lift our hearts to worship him.
We have come to exalt the name of Jesus, our Savior and King,
and to bring glory to God the Father through the Holy Spirit.**
Pastor: God has become King.
All: O come, let us adore him!

* *Come, Thou Almighty King*

Come, Thou Almighty King.
Help us Thy name to sing.
Help us to praise.
Father all glorious,
o'er all victorious,
come and reign over us;
Ancient of Days.

Come, Thou Incarnate Word.
Gird on Thy mighty sword.
Our prayer attend.
Come and Thy people bless,
and give Thy Word success.
Spirit of holiness,
on us descend.

Come, Holy Comforter.
Thy sacred witness bear.
In this glad hour;
Thou who almighty art.
now rule in ev'ry heart.
and ne'er from us depart,
Spirit of pow'r.

To Thee, great One in Three,
Eternal praises be hence evermore.
Thy sov'reign majesty,
may we in glory see.
And to eternity, love and adore.

Words and Music: Felice de Giardini
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Welcome! To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort; to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who sin and need a Savior; to all who are strangers and want fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and to all who will come, this church opens wide her doors and offers welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Hearing devices are available in the foyer...ask an usher.

Please sign the friendship pads located at the end of each pew.

Singing as Prayer. While some make a strong demarcation between singing and prayer, the Bible repeatedly presents the unity of song and prayer (for example, the entire book of Psalms). So when we engage in congregational singing we are engaging in a form of true prayer. And those prayers often range across a spectrum of praise, petition, thanksgiving, intercession, confession, Scripture-recitation, etc. In some Christian traditions, to highlight the fact that singing is prayer, they would end a congregational hymn or song with a standard cadence, singing "Amen." So know that when we sing together, we pray together!

Why do we pray in Jesus' name?

To pray in Jesus' name is not to recite an incantation or a formula which obligates God to listen to that prayer differently than he listens to prayers not offered in Jesus' name. Nor is it a matter of learning proper prayer etiquette (along the lines of teaching your children to be sure they say 'please' and 'thank you'). To pray in Jesus' name is to consciously offer prayer in accord with all that his name stands for. It is to pray recognizing that the only approach to God we enjoy is Jesus himself. It is to pray realizing that only because of what Jesus has done are we able to speak to the Father as Jesus himself did. It is to pray submitting our words and requests to the good and perfect will of Almighty God, as did Jesus Christ himself.

* Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Joyful joyful we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love.
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before Thee opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the dark of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

All Thy works with joy surround Thee. Earth and heav'n reflect Thy rays.
Stars and angels sing around Thee, Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea.
Chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in Thee.

Thou art giving, and forgiving; ever blessing, ever blest.
Wellspring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest.
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother, all who live in love are Thine.
Teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

Mortals join the mighty chorus which the morning stars began.
Father love is reigning o'er us, brother love binds man to man.
Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife.
Joyful music lifts us sunward in the triumph song of life.

Words: Edward Hodges, Henry Van Dyke / Music: Ludwig van Beethoven
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MORNING PRAYER

Elder Gena Bunn

Great is Thy Faithfulness

Refrain: Great is Thy faithfulness.
Great is Thy faithfulness.
Morning by morning new mercies I see.
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided.
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me.

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father.
There is no shadow of turning with Thee.
Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not.
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be. [Refrain]

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest;
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
to Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love. [Refrain]

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth!
Thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide.
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow
Blessings all mine with ten thousand beside. [Refrain]

Words: Thomas Obediah Chisholm Music: William Marion Runyan
© Hope Publishing Company

SONG OF ILLUMINATION

* Speak O Lord

Speak O Lord and renew our minds, help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us.
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time that will echo down through eternity.
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises and by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.
Speak O Lord till Your church is built and the earth is filled with Your glory.

Music and Lyrics: Keith Getty, Stuart Townend
2005 Thankyou Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)
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SERMON LESSON

1 Samuel 17

SERMON

“Finishing Strong”

Shelley Kral

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Made New

Words and Music: Colby Wedgeworth, Lincoln Brewster et al.
© Integrity Worship Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) (Integrity Music - DC Cook)

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE LORD AT WORK THROUGH LONGVIEW EPC

* 10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)

Refrain: Bless the Lord O my soul.

O my soul, worship His holy name.

Sing like never before, O my soul.

I'll worship Your holy name.

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning.

It's time to sing Your song again.

Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me;

Let me be singing when the evening comes. [Refrain]

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger.

Your name is great and Your heart is kind

For all Your goodness I will keep on singing

Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find. [Refrain]

And on that day when my strength is failing

The end draws near and my time has come

Still my soul will sing Your praise unending

Ten thousand years and then forevermore. [Refrain]

Worship Your holy name.

Lord, I'll worship Your holy name.

Words and Music: Jonas Myrin, Matt Redman
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*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

**Please stand as able*

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The impact of sermons. The very act of listening to a sermon shapes us. In a postmodern American society that prizes radical equality (everyone's the same), the relativity of truth (everyone's beliefs are equally valid), and suspicion of power (I can't trust people in authority), we need to realize just how subversive and shaping it is for us to sit and listen to a sermon. When we sit, our posture is saying, "I'm submitting myself to the authority of the Bible." When we listen to preaching with teachable hearts, we are saying, "I'm looking to something outside myself to tell me what is true and inform my life." The very act of listening to a sermon makes us a counter-cultural people who begin to doubt some of the above-mentioned assumptions about the world. We become a people who look to God—not ourselves—to inform us, grow us, lead us, and equip us. Now we can see that it's not only the content but the very action of listening to a sermon that shapes us into who God wants us to be.

WELCOME DAN SMITH, GUEST PREACHER SUNDAY, JANUARY 6:

Dan (or Daniel for those who knew him before college) Smith lives in Tucson, AZ with his wife Brittany and their kids Jonah and Penelope. He is ordained as a pastor in the Presbyterian Church in America. After spending five years with Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) at UT Tyler, Dan and Brittany are in their second year planting RUF at the U of Arizona. He holds degrees from OU and Covenant Theological Seminary. Dan loves learning how to grow fruit trees and flowers in the desert, poetry, and exploring the beautiful Arizona outdoors with his family. The Smiths are passionate about non-Christians and Christians both coming to a deeper grasp of God's grace through Jesus. The Southwest is gospel frontier and provides exciting opportunities for connecting students to God through His grace and connecting students to His Body the Church.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

December 31—Office Open 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.
January 1—Office Closed
January 6 at 9:30 a.m. — Worship Service, no Sunday School
January 9— Youth Bible Studies
January 13 at 9:30 a.m. — Communion followed by Potluck Lunch
January 16 at 5:15 p.m.—Kidmin: Digin!

NEW TO LONGVIEW EPC? Go to longviewepc.org for most info.

Prayer Ministry: Confidential prayer requests may be made by emailing prayerteam@epclongview.org or by using the cards located in the fellowship pads in your pew. Monthly prayer calendar in your bulletin today.

Tithes and Offerings: Boxes at each entrance. For credit/debit cards and electronically via the website—Serve/Giving.

Sermons and bulletins: Available on the website. You can listen to today's sermon following the service.

Parents and kids: Don't forget the special activity bags in the foyer just for you!

Blankets are available on the table by the sanctuary entrance if you or your little ones get cold during the service.

Guest WiFi: EPCGuest Password: Guestttt

NURSERY :

Dec. 30: Infants: Suzi White & volunteer needed

Toddlers: Jim Brun & volunteer needed

Jan. 6: Infants: Tammy Moyes & Volunteer Needed

Toddlers: Volunteers needed

USHERS & GREETERS:

Morning openers: Bob & Barbara Linthicum
This Week's Head Usher: Buck Birdsong

December 30: Tres Bainter, Bob Linthicum & Bill Burlingame

January 6: Head Usher Buck Birdsong
Cliff Hale, Bob Linthicum & Tres Bainter

SAFETY TEAM:

Dec. 30: Buck Birdsong & Bill Burlingame

Jan. 6: Buck Birdsong & Cliff Hale

Longview Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Worship 9:30 • Sunday Classes 10:45

RULING ELDERS

Gena Bunn '18

Ginia Northcutt '18

Kathie Ramey '18

Michael McMahon '19

Matt Yost '19

Jim Brun '20

Kerri Daugbjerg '20

Eric Skoog '20

STAFF

Rev. Doug Ashley — Pastor / dashley@epclongview.org

Rev. Shelley Kral — Associate Pastor / skral@epclongview.org

Jason Hubbard — Director of Youth Ministry / jhubbard@epclongview.org

Suzi White — Administrator / swhite@epclongview.org

David Luna — Interim Music Director / dluna@epclongview.org

Carrie Northcutt -- Interim Children's Dir. / childrensministry@epclongview.org

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